and Development Corporation for the welfare of the backward classes; and

(b) to what extent this programme has been implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) and (b) Detailed guidelines prepared by the National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation (NBCFDC) have been sent recently to State Governments and State Backward Classes Development Corporations and they have been requested to prepare projects accordingly. The Programme for the NBCFDC would be chalked out after proposals from the State Governments are received, which can be implemented for promoting the economic development of Socially & Educationally Backward Classes.

Census of Physically Disabled

1975. DR. SANJAYA SINH : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to carry out a census of persons afflicted with physical disabilities; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) and (b) A sample survey of the handicapped persons was undertaken by National Sample Survey Organisation during July to December, 1991. Government also are separately contemplating to have a survey of the disabled persons done in some selected districts of the country.

Atrocities on SC/STs

1976. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state the break up of atrocities committed on the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the country during the last three years Statewise ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House. (*See* Appendix CLXV, Annexure No. 37).

Request for increasing the rate of Schoolarship for SC/ST

1977. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has requested for increasing the rate of scholarship to the students belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) to (c) State Government of Uttar Pradesh is implementing a State Sector Scheme of Pre Matric Scholarship for the students belonging to Scheduled Castes under which the rates of Scholarships are decided by the State Government. State Government of Uttar Pradesh wants to increase the rates of scholarship under their scheme and requested Government of India to provide the funds. Since this is a State Sector Scheme, it was not possible to provide any funds from the Government of India. However, the matter has been referred to the Planning Commission for their consideration as the State Plan provision are made by the Planning Commission.

Schemes for Handicapped Children

1978. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) what are the details of the schemes and projects for ameliorating the lot of handicapped children; and

(b) what is the allocation of funds towards these schemes and projects in the current financial year ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) The details of schemes and projects for handicapped children are as follows :

1. *Scheme of Assistance to Organisation for the Disabled*

Under this scheme, grant-in-aid is provided to the organisations working for the welfare of disabled including children.

90% financial assistance is given to voluntary organisations who provide education, training and rehabilitation facilities to such people.

2. *Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for purchase/fitting of aid and appliances*

Under the scheme grants are given to voluntary organisation for providing aids and appliances whose value ranges between Rs. 25/- and Rs. 3600/- to disabled persons including children (i) free of cost if their income is less than Rs. 1200 p.m. and (ii) at 50% cost if the income ranges between Rs. 1201/- to Rs. 2500/- per month.

3. *Scholarship for the Disabled Persons*

Government of India provides scholarships to handicapped students, including the blind, for pursuing education from Class IX onwards. Scholarships are also provided for technical and professional training, correspondence courses of study and on-the-job training to the handicapped. Reader's allowance to the blind is also given. The scheme has been transferred to the State Governments from 1-4-1992.

(b) The allocation of funds for these schemes are as follows :

	Allocation in 1992-93 (*Rs. in crores*)
1. Scheme of Assistance to organisations for the Disabled.	5.70
2. Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for purchase/fittings of aids and appliances.	9.02
3. Scholarships for the Disabled Persons.	5.25

Financial Assistance to SC/ST Entrepreneurs

1979. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are any schemes other than those floated to assist the economically weaker sections to provide financial assistance with special concessions to the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe entrepreneurs;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether any special Institution has been established exclusively for the purpose of providing technological assistance to the up-coming scheduled caste/scheduled Tribe entrepreneurs to promote and run small/medium scale industries, if so, the names thereof; and

(d) the number of scheduled caste entrepreneurs benefited by such financial institutions so far and especially in the years 1990-91 and 1991-92 ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) and (b) NSFDC provides different packages of financial assistance exclusively for SCs/STs as explained in the Statement.

(c) Yes, Sir. NSFDC has been providing technical training in collaboration with State SC Development Corporations to the SC/ST upcoming entrepreneurs to promote and run small/medium scale industries.

(d) The number of entrepreneurs/beneficiaries so far covered by NSFDC through financial assistance is 1,21,920 in sectors like agriculture, transport, industry, service, etc. and especially in the years 1990-91 and 1991-92 are 5831 and 114231 respectively.

Statement

SEED CAPITAL

(i) Seed Capital is granted for meeting shortfall in promoter's contribution on need basis. Seed Capital Assistance is provided subject to a maximum limit of 25% of the project cost. However, this will be assessed after deducting the subsidy and seed capital assistance provided by other agencies.

(ii) Seed Capital Assistance is free of interest. However, a service charge of 1% per annum.

(iii) Seed Capital Assistance may be repaid within a period of 5 years including moratorium period, if